

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs

LD 289

An Act Regarding Horse Racing

PUBLIC 567

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCKENNEY FERGUSON	OTP-AM	H-794

LD 289, which was carried over from the first regular session, proposed to amend the definition of a "commercial track" by deleting the different criteria that currently apply to areas with different populations. It also proposed to make technical changes to make the use of this term consistent with the term "commercial licensee."

Committee Amendment "A" (H-794) proposed to replace the original bill. It would specify that harness racing judges for commercial tracks are appointed by the State Harness Racing Commission with the approval of the track and that the judges are hired as employees of the track on an annual basis. It also would provide for the transfer of a commercial track license to another location. This amendment would provide that if a race date at a commercial track is canceled due to a horse shortage that race date is still valid for the purposes of meeting the number of race dates required for the track to qualify as a commercial track.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 567 amends the definition of a "commercial track" by deleting the different criteria that currently apply to areas with different populations. It also makes technical changes to make the use of this term consistent with the term "commercial licensee." Public Law 2001, chapter 567 specifies that harness racing judges for commercial tracks are appointed by the State Harness Racing Commission with the approval of the track and that the judges are hired as employees of the track on an annual basis. It also provides for the transfer of a commercial track license to another location. This law provides that if a race date at a commercial track is canceled due to a horse shortage that race date is still valid for the purposes of meeting the number of race dates required for the track to qualify as a commercial track.

LD 1340

An Act to Hold an Advisory Referendum on Term Limits

INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUTTLE DOUGLASS	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	

LD 1340, which was carried over from the first regular session, proposed to direct the Secretary of State to hold an advisory referendum at a statewide election to determine whether the voters of the State favor amending or repealing the existing state law limiting the terms of Legislators.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-817) proposed to amend the original bill by submitting only one question regarding term limits to the voters. The question would ask the voter if the voter is in favor of repealing term limits for Legislators.

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House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-854) proposed to repeal term limits for Legislators, subject to approval by the voters at referendum.

LD 1532 **An Act to Amend the Governmental Ethics Laws Administered by the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	ONTP	

LD 1532, which was carried over from the first regular session, was an omnibus bill that proposed to amend several sections of the law pertaining to governmental ethics. It proposed to define several terms such as, "anything of value", "associated" and "reportable liability." This bill would have made changes to the laws governing standards of conduct, conflict of interest and the process for filing and processing ethics complaints. LD 1532 also proposed changes to the laws governing financial disclosure required of legislators. Finally, the bill proposed to increase the penalties for filing a false disclosure statement or for willfully failing to file on time.

LD 1752 **An Act to Update the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management Laws** **PUBLIC 662**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUTTLE	OTP-AM	H-837
DOUGLASS		H-946 TUTTLE
		S-557 DOUGLASS

LD 1752, which was carried over from the first regular session, proposed to make technical language changes throughout the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management's legislation, modify the Maine Code of Military Justice, authorize the sale of 2 armories in accordance with established procedures, fortify reemployment rights of service members, redesignate veteran service officers to veteran advocates and modify the mechanism by which the Governor declares a state of emergency.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-837) proposed to specify that the sale of the Caribou Armory must be at market value. Current law states that a veteran is eligible for burial in the veterans' cemetery if he or she was a resident of the State at the time of entering military service or at the time of death. This requirement would be repealed by this amendment. The amendment also proposed to authorize the Governor to enter into an agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency for debris removal financial assistance. Under this agreement the Governor would be authorized to indemnify the Federal Government against any claim arising from such removal as required by federal law. The amendment also proposed to make several technical changes to the bill and add a fiscal note to the bill.

House Amendment "A" (H-880), which was not adopted, proposed to correct a cross-reference.

House Amendment "B" (H-899) proposed to amend the bill in the following ways:

1. It would correct a cross-reference;

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2. It would require proceeds from the sale of condemned property to be credited to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management instead of to the Capital Repair Account of the Military Bureau; and
3. It would reenact the River Flow Advisory Commission that was inadvertently repealed by Public Law 2001, chapter 460, a law whose purpose was to "consolidate...existing dam safety laws within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management and move...the Dam Repair and Reconstruction Fund from the Department of Environmental Protection to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management.

House Amendment "C" (H-946) proposed to amend the bill in the following ways:

1. It would correct a cross-reference; and
2. It would reenact the River Flow Advisory Commission that was inadvertently repealed by Public Law 2001, chapter 460, a law whose purpose was to "consolidate...existing dam safety laws within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management and move...the Dam Repair and Reconstruction Fund from the Department of Environmental Protection to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management."

Senate Amendment "A" (S-526), which was not adopted, proposed to authorize state-supported postsecondary vocational schools and institutions to reduce the tuition waiver by the amount necessary to ensure that the value of the waiver, combined with other grants and benefits, does not exceed the total cost of the tuition.

Senate Amendment "B" (S-557) proposed to authorize state-supported postsecondary vocational schools and institutions to reduce the tuition waiver by the amount necessary to ensure that the value of the waiver, combined with other grants and benefits, does not exceed the total cost of the education.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 662 makes technical language changes throughout the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management's laws, modifies the Maine Code of Military Justice, authorizes the sale of 2 armories in accordance with established procedures, fortifies reemployment rights of service members, redesignates veteran service officers to veteran advocates and modifies the mechanism by which the Governor declares a state of emergency. Chapter 662 specifies that the sale of the Caribou Armory must be at market value. Current law states that a veteran is eligible for burial in the veterans' cemetery if he or she was a resident of the State at the time of entering military service or at the time of death. This requirement is repealed by this law. It authorizes the Governor to enter into an agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency for debris removal financial assistance. Under this agreement the Governor is authorized to indemnify the Federal Government against any claim arising from such removal as required by federal law. Chapter 662 reenacts the River Flow Advisory Commission that was inadvertently repealed by Public Law 2001, chapter 460, a law whose purpose was to "consolidate existing dam safety laws within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management and move the Dam Repair and Reconstruction Fund from the Department of Environmental Protection to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management." Finally, this law authorizes state-supported postsecondary vocational schools and institutions to reduce the tuition waiver by the amount necessary to

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ensure that the value of the waiver, combined with other grants and benefits, does not exceed the total cost of the education.

LD 1883 **An Act to Clarify the On-premise Liquor License Application Process** **PUBLIC 500**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DAVIS P LABRECQUE	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1883 proposed to clarify that municipal officers or county commissioners have 60 days to take final action on a new application for an on-premise liquor license. Under this bill, renewal license applications would have to be approved within 120 days.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 500 clarifies that municipal officers or county commissioners have 60 days to take final action on a new application for an on-premise liquor license. Renewal license applications must be approved within 120 days.

LD 1886 **Resolve, Directing the Director of the Bureau of Liquor Enforcement to Study the Equity of Fees for Establishments Licensed to Sell Liquor for On-premises Consumption** **RESOLVE 82**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BENNETT TUTTLE	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-453
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LD 1886 proposed to reduce the fee for a Class II license under the retail liquor sales law to \$220 per year.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-453) proposed to replace the bill and direct the Director of the Bureau of Liquor Enforcement within the Department of Public Safety to study the equity of fees for establishments licensed to sell spirits, wine and malt liquor for on-premises consumption. The report would be submitted to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over alcoholic beverages matters by December 31, 2003. This amendment would also add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2001, chapter 82 directs the Director of the Bureau of Liquor Enforcement within the Department of Public Safety to study the equity of fees for establishments licensed to sell spirits, wine and malt liquor for on-premises consumption. The report is to be submitted to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over alcoholic beverages matters by December 31, 2003.

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LD 1890

An Act Concerning Confidentiality of Investigations by the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices

PUBLIC 535

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BENNETT	OTP MAJ ONTP MIN	

LD 1890 proposed to repeal the provision of law that requires the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to keep a request for investigation confidential if it is filed within 10 business days immediately preceding the election.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 535 repeals the provision of law that requires the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to keep a request for investigation confidential if it is filed within 10 business days immediately preceding the election.

LD 1908

An Act to Prohibit the Consumption of Liquor by Minors on a Brewery Premises

PUBLIC 501

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DOUGLASS LABRECQUE	OTP-AM	S-418

LD 1908 proposed to correct language contained in the provision governing the issuance of brewery and small brewery licenses to reflect that prohibition. Currently, the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 28-A, sections 705 and 2051 prohibit the sale of any liquor or imitation liquor for consumption by a minor.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-418) clarifies the original bill by referencing the definition of "liquor" and "imitation liquor."

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 501 corrects language contained in the provision of law governing the issuance of brewery and small brewery licenses so that it is consistent with the provision that prohibits the sale of any liquor or imitation liquor for consumption by a minor.

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LD 1915

An Act to Amend the Civil Service Law with Respect to Veterans' Preference

PUBLIC 512

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DOUGLASS DUNCAN	OTP	

LD 1915 proposed to broaden eligibility for veterans' preference in making appointments to the classified service by eliminating the requirement for participation in a war, campaign or expedition defined in the current law. As a result, this bill would eliminate distinctions as to the period of service that currently exist in the veterans' preference statute.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 512 broadens eligibility for veterans' preference in making appointments to the classified service by eliminating the requirement for participation in a war, campaign or expedition defined in the current law. As a result, it eliminates distinctions as to the period of service that currently exist in the veterans' preference statute.

LD 1919

An Act to Allow Approval of Internet-based Alcohol Server Education Courses

PUBLIC 502

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DOUGLASS LABRECQUE	OTP	

LD 1919 allows the Commissioner of Public Safety or the commissioner's designee to approve Internet-based alcohol server education courses.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 502 authorizes the Commissioner of Public Safety or the commissioner's designee to approve Internet-based alcohol server education courses.

LD 1971

An Act to Support Businesses Engaged in Both Off-premises and On-premises Retail Sales of Malt Liquor and Wine

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SIMPSON DOUGLASS	ONTP	

LD 1971 proposed to amend current law to allow a licensed wine bar to share a kitchen with another establishment licensed for the sale of alcohol. "Wine bar" would be defined to be an establishment that sells wine for on-premises consumption and that also sells food, not including a full course meal.

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LD 2015

An Act to Amend Certain Statutes Regarding Beano and Games of Chance

PUBLIC 538

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHIZMAR	OTP-AM	H-848

LD 2015 proposed to amend the laws regarding beano and games of chance as follows.

1. It would provide for a period of 60 days for the Chief of the State Police to process applications for beano and games of chance licenses.
2. It would allow the Chief of the State Police to require evidence from beano and games of chance licensees regarding conduct of the amusements.
3. It would require organizations desiring to be licensed to conduct games of chance to be in existence for 2 years before applying for a license.
4. It would allow licensed agricultural fair societies to use tokens in the denomination of \$1 for games of chance.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-848) proposed to strike the provisions in the original bill that would have required the Chief of the State Police to process the application for a beano or game of chance license in 60 days. It also proposed to make some technical changes to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 538 specifies that non-profit organizations must be in existence for 2 consecutive years in order to be eligible for a license to conduct games of chance. This law provides that the Chief of the State Police may require evidence from a licensee regarding the conduct of beano or games of chance in order to determine compliance with the laws governing those games. Chapter 538 also permits licensed agricultural fair societies to use tokens in the denomination of \$1 for games of chance.

LD 2023

An Act to Amend the Election Laws

PUBLIC 516

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUTTLE DOUGLASS	OTP-AM	H-776 S-422 DOUGLASS

LD 2023 proposed to permit a nonresident United States citizen who was born outside the United States and who has never lived in the United States to register and enroll using the last residence address of either parent immediately before leaving the United States. The bill proposed to clarify that the election officials must open the boxes of ballots on election day to verify the number of ballots received. This bill would set a time certain that the incoming voting list must remain sealed after an election. The bill would clarify the information that must be included in the election returns from the municipalities, as well as the Secretary of

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State's tabulation of the vote. The bill also proposed to specify that a candidate must receive at least one vote in the primary or other election in order to win by a plurality of the votes cast. The bill would also make technical changes and provide consistent language to specify who will complete and sign certain election documents. The bill proposed to repeal the section of law that restricts certain people from being able to register or vote. The bill would also repeal the Congressional Term Limits Act of 1996, and the Maine Congressional Term Limitations Act of 1994. The bill also proposed to repeal the section of law that prohibits payment for collection of signatures if that payment is based on the number of signatures collected and clarify what other materials must be sealed with the incoming voting list. The bill would also provide for a poster to advise prospective registrants and voters of their rights. Finally, this bill proposed to provide for the federal absentee ballot to be used by members of the United States Armed Forces and citizens outside the United States in primary and general elections.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-776) proposed to strike the provisions of the original bill that provide for a new process by which United States citizens living outside the United States may register to vote and retain current law and add a fiscal note to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-422) proposed to remove and replace the fiscal note on the committee amendment. The bill as amended would not represent a state mandate under the Constitution of Maine.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 516 clarifies that election officials must open the boxes of ballots on election day to verify the number of ballots received. This law sets a time certain that the incoming voting list must remain sealed after an election. It clarifies the information that must be included in the election returns from the municipalities, as well as the Secretary of State's tabulation of the vote. Chapter 516 also specifies that a candidate must receive at least one vote in the primary or other election in order to win by a plurality of the votes cast. The law also provides for a poster to advise prospective registrants and voters of their rights. It provides for the federal absentee ballot to be used by members of the United States Armed Forces and citizens outside the United States in primary and general elections. Finally, this law makes several changes to the statutes in order to be consistent with recent court decisions regarding voting rights of persons under guardianship for mental illness, Congressional term limitations and payment for the collection of petition signatures.

LD 2055

**An Act to Make the Use of Tokens or Tickets for Games of Chance
at Agricultural Fairs Optional**

**PUBLIC 672
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHICK	OTP-AM MAJ	H-853
WOODCOCK	ONTP MIN	S-512 MILLS

LD 2055 proposed to delay by one year the date by which the use of tokens or tickets is required for games of chance at agricultural fairs.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-853) proposed to strike the original bill in its entirety and replaces it by amending current law to make the use of tickets or tokens for games of chance at agricultural fairs optional. This amendment would be retroactive to January 1, 2002.

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Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-512) this amendment proposed to make tokens an optional means for controlling revenue in games of chance and would authorize the Chief of the State Police to adjust record-keeping and reporting requirements for licensees who choose to use tokens. The amendment also contains some technical redrafting of existing law and provides definitions for 4 previously undefined terms: "agricultural society," "gross revenue," "net revenue" and "tokens." Public Law 2001, chapter 672 makes the use of tokens an optional method for controlling revenue in games of chance conducted at agricultural fairs. It authorizes the Chief of the State Police to adjust record-keeping and reporting requirements for licensees who choose to use tokens.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 672 makes the use of tokens an optional method for controlling revenue in games of chance conducted at agricultural fairs. It authorizes the Chief of the State Police to adjust record-keeping and reporting requirements for licensees who choose to use tokens.

Public Law 2001, chapter 672 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 11, 2002.

LD 2063 **An Act to Require Timely Consideration of Appeals of Decisions of the Registrar of Voters** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LEMOINE	ONTP	

LD 2063 proposed to require the registration appeals board in a town or city of 5,000 or more residents to convene on election day prior to the closing of the polls to consider any appeals that have arisen from decisions of the registrar of voters. The board would be required to meet in time to allow an aggrieved person to vote if the decision of the registrar is modified or reversed.

LD 2123 **An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Commission to Develop a Plan to Implement the Closure of State Liquor Stores** **PUBLIC 711**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM A	H-1122 – Committee of Conference
	ONTP B	
	OTP-AM C	

LD 2123 proposed to implement the recommendations of the Commission to Develop a Plan to Implement the Closure of State Liquor Stores. This bill proposed to require the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to continue to operate 19 state liquor stores. It proposed to repeal the 3.5 mile radius requirement when a state liquor store is replaced with an agency store. It would require an agent permitted to resell spirits and fortified wine purchased from the State Liquor Commission to a retail licensee licensed for on premise consumption to obtain a state reselling agent license for an annual fee of \$50. The bill also proposed to specify that all spirits sold by

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agents shall be sold at the list price established by the State Liquor Commission. Finally, LD 2123 proposed to require the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to report annually to the Joint Standing Committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over alcoholic beverages matters.

Committee Amendment "A", which was not adopted, proposed to provide that an agency liquor store licensed after April 1, 2002 in a municipality with a population of 20,000 or more may not be licensed if the location is within 3.5 miles of an existing agency liquor store. The original bill would have repealed the 3.5 mile radius requirement for the location of an agency liquor store in any municipality. The amendment also proposed that if a licensee dies, the licensee's surviving spouse or designated heir shall be issued the license if the spouse or heir requests it and meets all of the necessary requirements for an agency license at that location. The amendment also proposed to clarify the number of agents that the law currently provides may be licensed per municipality. This amendment proposed that, in the event that the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations is required to close additional state liquor stores in the future, the department would be required to get the approval of the Joint Standing Committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over alcoholic beverages matters for the state liquor stores selected for closure.

Committee Amendment "B", which was not adopted, proposed to clarify the number of agents that the law currently provides may be licensed per municipality. The amendment also proposed that if a licensee dies, the licensee's surviving spouse or designated heir shall be issued the license if the spouse or heir requests it and meets all of the necessary requirements for an agency license at that location. It also proposed that, in the event that the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations is required to close additional state liquor stores in the future, the departments would be required to get the approval of the Joint Standing Committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over alcoholic beverages matters for the state liquor stores selected for closure.

Conference Committee "A" proposed to maintain current law that directs the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to close six state liquor stores between June 1, 2002 and December 31, 2002. It proposed to repeal the requirement that when the Bureau of Liquor Enforcement licenses a private agency liquor store it must be at least 3.5 miles away from an existing agency liquor store. It would require an agent permitted to resell spirits and fortified wine purchased from the State Liquor Commission to a retail licensed for on-premise consumption to obtain a state reselling agent license for an annual fee of \$50. Under this amendment, all spirits and fortified wine purchased from the State Liquor Commission would be sold at the retail price established by the commission. Finally, this amendment proposed to provide that an agency liquor licensee may be transferred to the spouse or heir of a deceased licensee as long as the spouse or heir meets all of the criteria applied to a traditional license applicant.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001 chapter 711 maintains current law that directs the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to close six state liquor stores between June 1, 2002 and December 31, 2002. It repeals the requirement that when the Bureau of Liquor Enforcement licenses a private agency liquor store it must be at least 3.5 miles away from an existing agency liquor store. It requires an agent permitted to resell spirits and fortified wine purchased from the State Liquor Commission to a retail licensee licensed for on-premise consumption to obtain a state reselling agent license for an annual fee of \$50. Under this law, all spirits and fortified wine purchased from the State Liquor Commission will be sold at the retail price established by the commission. Finally, this law

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provides that an agency liquor license may be transferred to the spouse or heir of a deceased licensee as long as the spouse or heir meets all of the criteria applied to a traditional license applicant.

LD 2165

Resolve, to Allow Julie Harrington to Sue the State

**FINAL PASSAGE
FAILED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HASKELL	OTP-AM	H-1045
YOUNGBLOOD		S-613 DOUGLASS

LD 2165 is a resolve authorizing Julie Harrington to bring a civil action against the State for damages resulting from the alleged use by the State of computer software created by Julie Harrington in violation of her alleged copyrights in that software.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1045) replaced the resolve. It proposed to authorize Julie Harrington to bring a civil action against the State for damages resulting from the alleged use by the State of a computer software program in violation of her alleged copyrights in that software. The amendment also proposed to waive any defense of immunity the State may have pursuant to the Eleventh Amendment of the United States Constitution. The amendment would have limited any recovery to \$400,000. The amendment also added a fiscal note to the resolve.

Senate Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-613) proposed to authorize the transfer by the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services of up to \$30,000 from the self-insurance fund to the Department of Corrections to offset the costs of outside counsel fees.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-612) proposed to require the Department of Corrections to defend the lawsuit brought by Julie Harrington within the Department's existing resources. Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" was not adopted.

LD 2169

An Act to Ensure Proper Disbursement of Matching Funds under the Maine Clean Election Act

PUBLIC 589

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUTTLE	OTP-AM MAJ	H-971
	ONTP MIN	

LD 2169 proposed to require that traditionally funded candidates who have received or spent 101% of the amount disbursed to their opponents who are financed by the Maine Clean Elections Act file a report within 48 hours of making significant single expenditures. This reporting requirement would begin on the 28th day prior to an election.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-971) proposed to amend the accelerated reporting schedule for traditionally funded candidates who have received or spent 101% of the amount disbursed to their opponents who are financed by the Maine Clean Election Act. As proposed, the 42nd day report would reflect activity through the 44th day prior to election day, the 21st day report would reflect activity through

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the 23rd day prior to election day and the 12th day report would reflect activity through the 14th day prior to election day.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 589 amends the accelerated reporting schedule for traditionally funded candidates who have received or spent 101% of the amount disbursed to their opponents who are financed by the Maine Clean Election Act. The 42nd day report will reflect activity through the 44th day prior to election day, the 21st day report will reflect activity through the 23rd day prior to election day and the 12th day report will reflect activity through the 14th day prior to election day. Under this law, the requirement for filing 48 hour single expenditure reports begins the 14th day prior to election day.

LD 2174 **Resolve, Authorizing Michelle Booker to Sue the State**

**VETO
SUSTAINED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERRY SAWYER	OTP-AM	H-1044

LD 2174 proposed to authorize Michelle Booker, in her capacity as personal representative of the estate of Donna Leen, to sue the State for damages as a result of the State's negligence in the death of Donna Leen.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1044) replaces the resolve. It proposed to authorize Michelle Booker, in her capacity as personal representative of the estate of Donna Leen, to sue the Department of Corrections for wrongful death as a result of the Department's alleged negligence in the death of Donna Leen. Under the amendment, monetary recovery is limited to the maximum amounts authorized under the wrongful death provision, Maine Revised Statutes, Title 18-A, section 2-804. The amendment also added a fiscal note to the resolve.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-568) proposed to cap the damages that may be recovered under a lawsuit brought by Michelle Booker to \$400,000, the limit specified in the Maine Tort Claims Act. Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" was not adopted.

LD 2174 was enacted in the House and Senate, but vetoed by the Governor.

LD 2182 **An Act to Establish a Centralized Voter Registration System for the State**

PUBLIC 637

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>

LD 2182 is a committee bill pursuant to Joint Order, House Paper 1622. It proposed to define "centralized voter registration system" and authorize the Secretary of State to apply for and receive funds for the establishment of a centralized voter registration system. The bill would establish the Centralized Voter Registration Advisory Committee to assist the Secretary of State and requires the Secretary of State to

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develop a pilot program to test a centralized voter registration system and fully implement a centralized voter registration system by December 31, 2007. The Secretary of State would be authorized to adopt rules to implement and administer a centralized voter registration system. Such rules would be major substantive rules. The Secretary of State would be required to report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over voter registration matters and could recommend legislation necessary to implement or administer the centralized voter registration system.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 637 defines "centralized voter registration system" and authorizes the Secretary of State to apply for and receive funds for the establishment of a centralized voter registration system. It establishes the Centralized Voter Registration Advisory Committee to assist the Secretary of State and requires the Secretary of State to develop a pilot program to test a centralized voter registration system and fully implement a centralized voter registration system by December 31, 2007. Under this law, the Secretary of State is authorized to adopt rules to implement and administer a centralized voter registration system. Such rules would be major substantive rules. The Secretary of State is required to report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over voter registration matters and may recommend legislation necessary to implement or administer the centralized voter registration system.

LD 2183

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 3: Maine Clean Elections Act and Related Provision Amendments, Major Substantive Rules of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices

**RESOLVE 109
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report
OTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 2183 proposed to approve major substantive rules governing the Maine Clean Elections Act administered by the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2001, chapter 109 approved major substantive rules governing the Maine Clean Election Act administered by the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices. Some of the rules adopted govern distribution of matching funds, record-keeping by participating candidates, the return of unspent funds and the liquidation of property purchased with Maine Clean Election Act funds.

Resolve 2001, chapter 109 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 8, 2002.

LD 2211

An Act to Include a Woman Veteran on the Board of Trustees of the Maine Veterans' Homes

PUBLIC 676

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

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LD 2211 is a committee bill pursuant to Joint Order 1689. It proposed to amend the law governing the membership of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Veterans' Homes. It would increase the membership from 10 to 11 and require that at least one member appointed to the board be a female veteran.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 676 amends the law governing the membership of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Veterans' Homes. It increases the membership from 10 to 11 and requires that at least one member appointed to the board be a female veteran.

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